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Agenda item 1

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Appointment of three members of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Note by the Secretary-General

1. On 16 May 1995, the Secretary-General sent a note verbale to all Member States informing them that the Economic and Social Council, at its resumed organizational session for 1995, will be called upon to appoint three members to serve on the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), when the term of office of the three members expires on 30 June 1995. In the same note verbale, the Secretary-General requested Governments to submit the names and curricula vitae of candidates not later than 22 May 1995.

2. Under the provisions of the statute of the Institute, the Board of Trustees is composed of 11 members nominated by States and appointed by the Economic and Social Council, with due regard to the principle of equitable distribution and the fact that the Institute and its work are funded from voluntary contributions. Members of the Board serve in their individual capacities for a term of three years from the date of appointment. They are eligible for reappointment by the Council for one further term. The current membership of the Board is given in annex I below.

3. At its first regular session of 1983, the Council, on the proposal of the President, decided to maintain the existing de facto geographical balance of the Board without prejudice to any further decision the Council might wish to take with regard to the composition of the Board and the distribution of seats on it (see E/1983/SR.13). Accordingly, in order to maintain the existing geographical balance, the vacancies should be filled by the appointment of one member from the three regional groups concerned.

4. The candidates listed below were nominated by their Governments in response to the Secretary-General's note verbale. Biographical information on the candidates is contained in annex II below. The candidates are as follows:

African States

Ihsan Abdalla Algabshawi (Sudan)

Latin American and Caribbean States

Sheila Roseau (Antigua and Barbuda)
Esther María Ashton (Bolivia)

Western Europe and other States

Els Postel-Coster (Netherlands)

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Annex I

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Membership as at 1 July 1994

	Term expires on 30 June
Selma Acuner (Turkey)	1997
Ihsan Abdalla Algabshawi (Sudan)	1995
Fatima Benslimane Hassar (Morocco)	1997
Noëlie Kangoye (Burkina Faso)	1996
Aída González Martínez (Mexico)	1995
Amara Pongsapich (Thailand)	1996
Els Postel-Coster (Netherlands)	1995
Pilar Escario Rodríguez-Spiteri (Spain)	1996
D. Gail Saunders (Bahamas)	1997
Renata Siemienska-Zochowska (Poland)	1997
Soedarsono (Indonesia)	1997

Annex II

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Sheila Roseau (Antigua and Barbuda). Executive Director of the Directorate of Women's Affairs. Responsible for the administration of policies and programmes on gender issues and women's concerns. Has served as Unit Manager for Disabilities Services in the areas of community mental health and learning disabilities. Areas of responsibilities included financial management, recruitment, induction and implementation of policies and procedures. Has had ample experience on issues concerning the elderly, including staff management, supervision and training of staff.

Esther María Ashton (Bolivia). Chargé d'affaires of Bolivia to Denmark, member of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Has held several prominent official positions, such as, Director of the Department of the Americas and Director of the Department of International Narcotic Issues of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Counsellor and permanent delegate of the Permanent Mission of Bolivia to the United Nations on the Third Committee of the General Assembly and the Second Committee of the Economic and Social Council. Official delegate to the UNICEF Executive Board, President of the Group of 77, Vice-President of the Second Committee of the Economic and Social Council. Official delegate to several conferences of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and member of the delegation of Bolivia to the Plenipotentiary Conference for the United Nations Convention on Illicit Drug Traffic.

Ihsan Abdalla Alqabshawi (Sudan). Acting Head of the Documentation, Research and Statistics Centre, Commissioner for Refugees Office in Khartoum since 1988, where she had been Documentation Officer and translator. Has been trained and has experience in librarianship, information and documentation services. Author of numerous publications on the themes of library and information services, documentation centres and refugees in the Sudan. Member of delegations that have participated in national and international conferences and seminars on issues covering such fields as women, children, refugees and displaced persons, librarianship, data processing of science and technology, statistics and development, and the integration of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Sudan.

Els Postel-Coster (Netherlands). Professor at the University of Leiden, Netherlands, researcher and lecturer of cultural anthropology and Indonesian culture. Has pursued research and lectured on such issues as literature and society; literature and power structures of the Minangkabau; the role of women in development in Indonesia and theoretical development in gender issues. Has supervised various research and development projects; established a women's study programme and is a member of the postgraduate supervisor's committees and several official academic groups. Vice-Chair of the National Advisory Council on Development Cooperation (NAR), reporting to the Minister for Development Cooperation; member of the Board of the KITLV National Plan, NOVIB. Has participated in the Council of Women (Netherlands Development Agencies); Project Advisory Committee of the International Agriculture Council (IAC) in Wageningen; Committee on the Poorest, Evert Vernner Foundation; Malang Advisory Committee at Leiden University; Supervisory Committee for the NOVIB-UNGO Project; and

Editorial Board of the Netherlands Review of Development Studies. At the administrative and policy-making level, has participated as advisory member of the delegation of the Netherlands to the World Conference of the International Women's Year in 1975; member and co-founder of the Council of Women (Netherlands Development Agencies); member of the Board of the Netherlands Help the Children Plan; and member of the steering group of the Indo-Dutch Programme for Alternatives in Development, Institute for Social Science Research in Development Countries (IMWOO).